

H.R. 1070, THE BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER TREATMENT ACT

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I am in support of H.R. 1070, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act. This legislation will give States the ability to provide a reliable method of treatment for uninsured and underinsured women battling breast or cervical cancer.

The program currently provides screening for cancer, but it provides no treatment options for these women. So if they are diagnosed with cancer, they have no option to be cured, which is a harsh reality. Giving States the option of providing Medicaid coverage for women will help save thousands of lives.

I urge the Speaker to bring this critically important legislation to the House floor for a vote by Mother's Day, May 14. The bill has 289 bipartisan cosponsors, well over the required number to pass a bill on the Suspension Calendar. In addition, the funding for this bill was also included in the House passed budget resolution.

Mr. Speaker, let's bring H.R. 1070 to the House floor before Mother's Day, in time to give our mothers, our sisters, our daughters the most important gift of all, the gift of life.

HONORING LT. DENNIS HOLMES,
MILPITAS POLICE DEPARTMENT**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Dennis Holmes upon his retirement from the Milpitas Police Department after nearly 33 years of exemplary service to law enforcement.

Lt. Holmes joined the police force in Milpitas in 1967. He was promoted to sergeant in March 1974 and rose to the rank of lieutenant in September 1980.

During his early years as a police officer, Lt. Holmes was the first officer to be selected to serve as a field-training officer. As a supervisor, he helped develop structured localized field-training programs that he managed for nearly 15 years. He sat on the advisory board of the regional police academy and was a strong advocate for specialty and professional training for all departmental employees.

Lt. Holmes served in almost all of the available sections of the Milpitas Police Department. He started in Patrol, and then transferred into Traffic Enforcement and Investigation. He was later selected to head up the Traffic Section. As a sergeant he supervised in Patrol, was transferred into Generalist Investigations, and was then selected to supervise a proactive enforcement.

As supervisor of the proactive team, drug related arrests more than doubled and the residential burglary rate plummeted. He also introduced an objective employee performance appraisal system that was later adopted city-wide. This system has been in place with few modifications for over 20 years.

As investigative lieutenant, he implemented and formalized case management procedures,

which brought accountability to the investigation function. In addition, he implemented an automated case tracking system and instituted a subjective case-screening model.

Lt. Holmes served as president of the Milpitas Police Officer's Association for 4 years. He was lead negotiator for two employee relations contracts, and served on two additional negotiation teams. He was instrumental in obtaining the first fully confidential police psychological counseling benefit for Milpitas police employees.

I have highlighted some of Lt. Holmes' many accomplishments and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding public servant. He has been an innovator and a change agent in law enforcement. His unselfish dedication to the Milpitas community is appreciated and will be long remembered.

THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 15th anniversary of the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation.

In the early 1980's, a group of community residents became concerned about the lack of healthcare services in southern Illinois. At that time, there were very few physicians in the area. Residents of the region suffered from a lack of adequate healthcare services. Infant mortality rates and rates of other health related concerns were on the rise. Most physicians in the region expressed their reluctance to participate in federal programs to assist the poor. Several communities in the area were also federally designated as under served and a health care professional shortage was also recognized.

In 1983, this concerned group of citizens formed an not-for-profit organization to promote health care concerns. The original charter members of the corporation included Harvey Jones Jr., Francis Touchette, Bob Bergman, Callie Mobley, Don Sminchak, Virginia "Betty" Knuckles, Kathleen Touchette, Dr. Mays Maxwell and Rev. Father Jerry Wirth. I was also proud to also be part of that original committee. The Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation opened its first center in one side of the public health department building at 6000 Bond Avenue in Centreville, Illinois on January 7, 1985.

With assistance of an initial Federal grant, the center began its operations in the Centreville facility, providing health care services to the surrounding communities in the area. The foundation's services expanded in the 90's with facilities opening in East St. Louis, Washington Park and Brooklyn, Illinois. In 1913, the foundation partnered with Touchette Regional Hospital in Centreville and with the East Side Health District to expand its reach further into the area. I was happy to assist the center procure various grants to improve services to reduce infant mortality rates in the area and in 1997 the foundation opened a facility in Alton, Illinois. School based clinics also operate in East St. Louis and Cahokia, Illinois.

In recognition for its work to reduce the amount of low-birth weight babies, the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation and Touchette Regional Hospital was one of the first winners of the "Models that Work" program, as sponsored by the National Committee For Quality Healthcare. Other awards and recognition for the system include the American Hospital Association and the Baxter Allegiance Foundation. The Baxter Award recognized the system's work with the various foundation communities. The foundation was also a finalist in the Premier Cares Award sponsored by Premier Healthcare.

Just last year, the foundation further expanded its services by opening a second site in Madison County in Bethalto, Illinois. Private grants have also been awarded to the Southern Illinois Foundation from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to allow them to address Medicaid Managed Care issues and provide funds for planning and study for healthcare issues.

Locally, the foundation has also been presented the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award from the Kimmel Leadership Center. Dr. Bob Klutts is the chief executive officer and has been the executive with the foundation since 1988.

Operations in all of the Foundation Health center sites are now well established. The foundation system has grown from an initial 8,678 patient visits in 1988 to currently over 85,000 patient visits. In addition to the clinic sites they operate in several communities, they also operate three Quick Care sites with one site devoted to the needs of mother and child care and also a site directed to the needs of adults. It is one of the strongest Healthcare networks operating in Illinois today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the anniversary and service of the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, last evening I was unavoidably detained and was not present for rollcall votes 111-114.

Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 111, "yes" on rollcall vote 112, "yes" on rollcall vote 113 and "no" on rollcall vote 114.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTH FORK
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the North Fork Chamber of Commerce for its outstanding contributions to the community.

During the last year, the North Fork Chamber of Commerce has accomplished a great deal. They have increased their membership to 64 members. The Chamber began quarterly town hall meetings with Supervisor Gary Gilbert and Sheriff John Anderson, holding three

meetings in 1999. The Chamber has also joined SUPERCHEX (Superior California Chamber Exec's) to network with neighboring Chambers of Commerce. In collaboration with neighboring Chambers, the North Fork Chamber began advance planning, one year in advance, of chamber projects.

The North Fork Chamber started a weekly "North Fork Chamber Chat" column in the Sierra Star, a local newspaper. The Chamber also resumed monthly newsletters and monthly mixers for its members.

The North Fork Chamber secured \$52,500 in grants and matching funds to add new sidewalks, mini-parks, and tourist signs on Northfork's Main Street.

The Chamber began a part-time paid staff, courtesy of the USFS SCSEP program, which also provided mileage and classes on Micro-soft programs and project management. Along with their many achievements, the Chamber also acquired a new office, courtesy of CDC, at the Mill Site Office Building, furnished and staffed by Jim Flanagan.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the North Fork Chamber of Commerce for its service to the community. I urge colleagues to join me in wishing the North Fork Chamber of Commerce many more years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO THE WATCHFUL SHEPHERD AND JOSEPH FEMIANI

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, today, during National Child Abuse Prevention Month I praise the organizations which work tirelessly to end our children's suffering. I am proud to say that one such organization and its originator in my district are part of the crusade to make all children safe from harm. I am speaking of The Watchful Shepherd and Joseph Femiani.

Every day, 78 babies die, 2162 babies are born into poverty and 3,453 babies are born to unwed parents. Added to the likelihood that one in two children will live in a single parent family at some point in childhood, one in eight is born to a teenage mother and one in 60 sees their parents divorce in any year, it is no wonder that our children live in peril.

While Congress works to reverse these trends, The Watchful Shepherd protects children already suffering at the hands of relatives and family friends. Piloted in Southwestern Pennsylvania hospitals in 1993 and 1996, The Watchful Shepherd program unites the resources of Children and Youth Services agencies, police departments health care professionals and community residents in a unique effort to improve the protection of children at risk for abuse.

Since its successful adoption by Washington County Children and Youth Services, other communities such as Tom's River, New Jersey; Dover, Delaware; and Chesapeake, Virginia have employed the program with great success for families currently enrolled in Watchful Shepherd. Surprisingly, most families voluntarily agree to the program, which consists of a panic button worn on the child and a telephone unit which are monitored by hospital, police or trained volunteer personnel.

Many law enforcement agencies take Watchful Shepherd calls so seriously that they have classified the alarms as a level one priority. To date, there have been no false alarms and the system is constantly improving to serve children and their families together.

All great ideas have a creator. The chief champion of The Watchful Shepherd program is Joseph Femiani, whose idea has become a noble crusade. Borne out of personal experience, The Watchful Shepherd has no greater promoter. Mr. Femiani, a successful Washington County business owner, husband and father, could have savored the good life he had created for himself after a painful childhood, but he chose to make life safer for children everywhere.

Joe Femiani's tireless promotion of child abuse prevention and The Watchful Shepherd program has led to a feature in Time, an interview with National Public Radio and a segment on NBC's Dateline in addition to numerous grassroots campaigns to get the message out about his lifesaving program. All of this effort is not in vain. Mr. Femiani continues to receive national and international interest in The Watchful Shepherd program and works endlessly to organize financial support for those communities seeking to adopt the program.

Many marvel at Joe's stamina and commitment to his cause, as was the case in an interview with the Pittsburgh Catholic. "Whenever Joseph Femiani questions whether his efforts makes a difference, he reaches for a card he carries in his wallet which bears the names of children who have been murdered." That—it seems—has made all the difference.

IN HONOR OF THE WESTINGHOUSE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend the Westinghouse High School, and in particular the men's senior basketball team. Westinghouse High School located in the 7th Congressional District of Illinois, in the heart of the Westside, has a long tradition of academic and athletic excellence. The school has graduated several professional basketball players, including Mark Aguirre and former College Player of the Year and NBA All-Star Hersey Hawkins.

The dream of winning a state championship inspired the Westinghouse Warriors to diligently practice and perform throughout a grueling 33 game season. This year, with a season record of 31-2, the team clinched the city of Chicago championship. Their success led them to Peoria, Illinois to compete for the Class AA state title, their ultimate goal. Their hard work and determination had rewarded them with their first major achievement, the city title. However, upon the completion of the very competitive state championship game the Westinghouse Warriors came short of the victory.

In spite of their loss, I commend this hard-working and dedicated team. This team has epitomized hard work and persistence. In addition to their feats on the basketball court, team members have maintained their dedication to academics, they are truly student-ath-

letes, students first, then athletes—and champions in both.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the Westinghouse High School men's basketball team for their outstanding performance and dedication. The team, along with its head coach Mr. Chris Head, have worked hard to achieve their accomplishments. They should be honored by all of America.

NEW CROP INSURANCE OFFERS FARMERS MORE PROTECTION

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the following editorial from the April 3, 2000, Norfolk Daily News. The editorial expresses support for a new form of crop insurance which allows farmers to protect themselves against both natural disasters and low prices. This Member is pleased that legislation passed last year by the House makes many improvements in the current program, including providing additional assistance for producers to purchase insurance that provides protection from price or income loss, as well as production loss. This Member encourages expeditious action on resolving the differences between the risk management bills passed by the House and Senate.

[From the Norfolk Daily News, Apr. 3, 2000]
CROP INSURANCE AN IMPROVEMENT

WITH NEW INSURANCE TYPE, FARMERS CAN FINALLY CONTROL PART OF THEIR OPERATIONS

With the weather and market price swings completely out of their control, an increasing number of farmers are embracing one of the few things that can give them at least some control over their income.

It comes in the form of crop insurance but not the type that most people think of. For years, crop insurance was a way to insure against crop disasters caused by weather debacles.

The problem was that it often was expensive, didn't provide complete coverage and many farmers shunned it, choosing instead to hope that Mother Nature would cooperate and, if that wasn't the case, that the federal government would come through with emergency assistance.

That kind of crop insurance still is available, but a newer type—one that insures against price dips and weather-related problems—is fast becoming the preferred option.

That's partly because the federal government has chosen to provide \$400 million in additional subsidies, meaning the premiums for crop insurance have been reduced by about 25 percent. A lower price for better coverage is the kind of deal anyone needs to take a close look at.

The other factor is the kind of insurance available. While more expensive than the traditional type that insures against weather-related problems, the new revenue coverage offers farmers more peace of mind in that it guarantees an income level regardless of what happens with the weather.

It also provides more marketing flexibility for participating farmers and even could provide some supplemental income during a bumper crop year—assuming market prices are low as a result.

If that sounds too good to be true, there's more. Although government subsidies have